

Overview and Accomplishments:

The goal of the Teen Art in Urbana program was to provide local youth with opportunities to 1) take leadership positions in local arts programming and 2) engage with other youth in the process of art creation. The program resulted in approximately 35 registered students, with 22 students completing the program; six of these students were part of the Teen Art Council, which was developed at the beginning of the program, and recruited students from the Urbana Free Library, Urbana Neighborhood Connections Center, Urbana High School, and Uni High School. The final exhibition(s) of youth artwork - titled "The Un-United States of America" can be viewed during the month of March at the Urbana Free Library, as well as online through a 3D virtual exhibition. Both of these exhibitions were curated by the Teen Art Council, as was the prompt and theme of the program and resulting exhibitions.

Program Implementation and Challenges:

While the original concept was for a council of teens to organize and develop a series of in person art creation workshops, culminating in a final exhibition of youth-created art open to the public, the form of the program had to change due to COVID-19 precautions. In-person workshops shifted to Zoom workshops, and in-person exhibitions were delayed and supplemented with virtual exhibitions. Instead of hosting in-person events at community partner sites, the CU Community Fab Lab and the Urbana Free Library partnered together to distribute kits to families. The TAC researched what they thought should be in each kit, and created supplies lists for CUC Fab Lab staff to order and put together into kits.

Once kit distribution began, the TAC worked on developing program plans for Zoom workshops, and led workshops at the Urbana Free Library's Teen Online Lab, as well as at UNCC. The shift to online programming was not without its challenges or disappointments, as evening Zoom workshops not partnered with community sites received no participants, even on the occasions where participants registered, and the return rate of artworks was around 75%, which is clearly lower than it would be if students were making the artwork during in-person programming. However, this model did allow students to spend significantly more time on making artwork that was meaningful to them, and allowed the program to reach a wider population, with more high-school students and students from the surrounding towns participating than before.

Grant Use & Impact:

The Urbana Arts and Culture Grant was the primary source of funding for the art kits. With COVID, the program would have been entirely impossible without the funding we received from the Urbana Arts and Culture Program, which allowed us to provide individual kits to each student so that they could work from home and socially distanced. Because of the grant money that funded the creation of art kits, we were able to reach a broader audience of teens, as opposed to our original plan which would only reach teens at in-person workshops.

Labor Hours:

- Program Planning and Implementation: 221 Hours
- Promotions & Photography: 14 hours

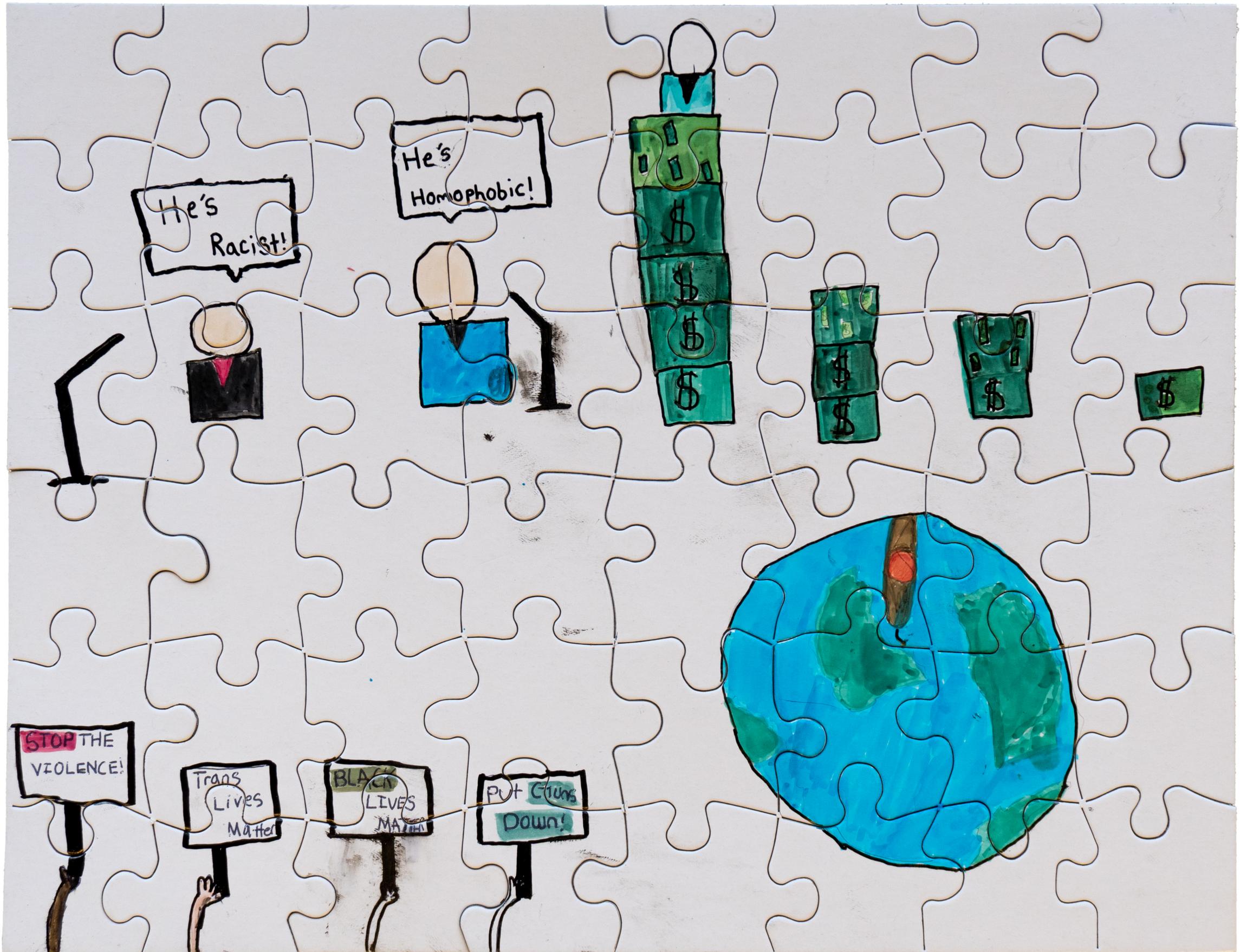


THE
UN-UNITED
STATES

BLACK
LIVES
MATTER

Alia







BLACK LIVES MATTER
SUPREMACY IMMIGRATION



COVID-19
OUR
TY
TION
NINE
QUALITY

2020



"Grandpa!" I shouted. "Be careful! Oh, gee!
Who's going to drop it?
Will you... or will he...?
"Be patient," said Grandpa. "We'll see.
We will see..."

-Dr. Seuss











Meet The Team of Artists
The kids and
adults were
asked to create
a mural that
represented
their feelings
about the
country.



Click on Images for More Information

The Un-United States of America

This virtual exhibition is like when the adults are fighting and the kids are stuck in the middle. All we can do is sit here and listen. We can't vote and our parents may not allow us to go protest. So this is how we feel about the discord in the United States of America.

Click on Images for More Information





"Themes of 2020"
Savanna
10 years



"The World Divided"
Chayanca
10 years

About the Exhibit:
This exhibit is an art show in Urbana, a program aimed to provide an outlet for the Champaign-Urbana area's students to express themselves. The exhibit is a collection of art pieces, some inspired by the current events and some that are simply beautiful. We hope that people can engage and appreciate with the voices of our youth. We have had people say they were inspired by the art and that they were able to learn more and stay connected about their art. We are so proud of you!
The Teen Art Council and Teen Art in Urbana are funded partially by the Community Fab Lab.

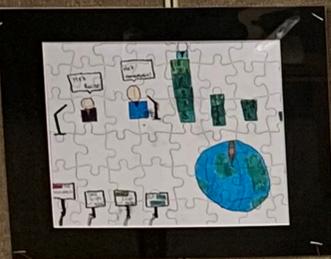
2020 Teen Art in Urbana Prompt:
2020 has been quite the year and there are no shortages of news, headlines, or stories that we could make art about!
For this year's teen art show, the prompt has been on the theme of "The Unfinished Business of America." If the United States of America is founded by the "Founding Fathers," then the American dream is an unfinished business. What does the American dream mean to you? How do you see it? What are the challenges that we face as a nation? What are the things that we need to do to move forward? We've invited you to think about the country we (they) call home, and make a work of art inspired by it.



"6 Feet Apart"
Nerage
10 years



"We Have Been Tired"
Avelon
10 years



Demisha
10 years



Kathia HERRERA
10 years



ANASTASIA HERRERA
10 years



Emi Gonzalez
10 years



"Toxic Words"
Lily
10 years

